

# LOCAL I-S NEWS

*for department store workers*

VOL. 5, NO. 15

264

MARCH 15, 1954

## well done!

As the March of Dimes collection edged over the \$2,400 mark President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein and George Garian extended the thanks and congratulations of Local I-S to its Executive Board, Shop Stewards and members.

Almost without exception, he said, the 1954 drive to wipe out polio had met with the enthusiastic response of all.

"Coupled with the Union's role in the record-shattering Greater New York Fund Campaign," the Local I-S President said, "We have amply proved that we are fully deserving of the assistance we receive and that we recognize the worth of these agencies and the urgency of their need. We have also shown that no effort can really succeed without the full and voluntary participation of our Union and the entire membership."

## City CIO Calls On Unions To Lead Fight vs. McCarthy

The following resolution was adopted by the New York City CIO Council at its meeting on February 25th:

Wednesday, February 24, 1954 may one day go down in American history as equivalent to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's description of December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor Day, as a "Day of Infamy." For on that day of February 24 our country witnessed the ignominious surrender of the American Army and the Government of the United States to that most dangerous demagogue, Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. Ironically enough, this "unconditional surrender" came at a time the entire nation was aghast at the treatment the junior Senator from Wisconsin had accorded an honorable soldier who had spent his life in the service of the United States. His contemptuous treatment of General Zwicker and his attempt to impugn the loyalty and patriotism of the American Army resulted in an explosion of wrath against McCarthy and everything for which he stood.

Millions of Americans cheered Secretary of the Army Stevens and waited in hopeful anticipation that the President of the United States, himself a distinguished soldier, would come to the defense of the American Army against the demonstrably false insinuations of McCarthy. Alas for these expectations. The President of the United States, the Commander-in-Chief of the American Army, surrendered to the demagogue from Wisconsin without firing a shot.

The United States is not Germany nor Italy nor Russia and the CIO has proven and demonstrated that it has no use for, nor will it tolerate communism in the labor movement or in any sensitive spot in the government. McCarthy, however, is not fighting an honest battle against communism; he is fighting for power for extreme rightists. His victory was handed to him on a platter by a cowardly administration and liberty is periled.

No longer can we sit idly by and watch the antics of McCarthy and his Republican co-

horts without realizing that our basic liberties are in mortal danger. Since President Eisenhower and his Administration have failed shamefully to meet the challenge of McCarthy we call on all the affiliates of the New York City CIO Council to organize and lead the fight against McCarthy and the people who would subvert and destroy our basic American freedoms. The New York City CIO Council condemns President Eisenhower and the Republican Administration which he heads for its criminal failure to combat the plague of McCarthyism and we call upon national CIO to organize and lead this fight to preserve the basic American liberties from destruction.

## STEWARDS WILL MEET TO SPEED MOBILIZATION

Another vital step was taken to get the Union's negotiating machinery into high gear as a series of meetings involving all Shop Stewards was announced by President Sam Kovenetsky.

The Local's President said, "The Divisional Meetings which have just ended have helped lay the groundwork for the early stages of our negotiations.

"The Shop Steward meetings that are to resume shortly will be vital to the mobilization of our membership for the best possible settlement of our demands, as well as for the continued full enforcement of our contract.

"It is absolutely essential that every Steward participate fully in the meetings if we are to realize our greatest strength.

"No individual has a more important part to play in determining the successful outcome of all our efforts than the Shop Steward. As in the past, we can all be confident that no one will be found lacking the confidence and determination essential to victory."

## Board Opposes Butler Bill, Asks For City CIO Campaign; Urges Holiday Closing of All Department Stores



PAC's Chairman Boyd

## Macy Warning Reversed By Union Stand

A "grave injustice" was corrected when Local I-S challenged Macy's right to place on warning a worker whose major offense was a series of absences resulting from an on-the-job injury for which she got Workmen's Compensation pay.

Ida Panariello was rated "Below Standard" for "Reliability" as a direct result of fourteen illness absences over a period of 18 weeks, and one absence which Macy's said was "without leave" in spite of the fact that Miss Panariello had called to report.

Administrator Tom Raffaele presented the case to Macy's Labor Relations Department and sharply criticized the company's act. He argued that Miss Panariello was being penalized for absences resulting from an injury she had suffered on the job. He pointed out that Macy's responsibility was acknowledged by the fact that she was receiving compensation and that "if such a decision is allowed to stand Macy's will be guilty of committing a grave injustice."

Following a re-study of all the facts in the case Macy's agreed to remove the "Below Standard" rating, to change the "Absent Without Leave" to an official "Leave of Absence" and to remove the warning.

Administrator Raffaele hailed the decision as an "important re-affirmation of the security every Union member has under the contract with the help of an effective means of airing grievances."

The Executive Board of Local I-S at its regular meeting at the end of February unanimously declared itself "unalterably opposed" to the proposed Butler Bill (S 1606) and called on the New York City and State CIO Councils to join in an all-out campaign to insure its defeat.

## negotiations

FLASH! As this issue of your Local I-S NEWS went to press it was learned that Macy's has advised the Union that they are now ready to begin talks on the demand for a wage increase, a reduction in hours, a fully automatic wage structure and other contract improvements.

Macy's had been studying the demands for more than three weeks before announcing their readiness to meet the Union's officers and negotiators.

Special bulletins will bring regular progress reports.

## SO's Reject Macy Offer Of 2½ Cent Raise

An 8 P.M. Saturday night meeting of "fractional" and "Saturday-only" workers indignantly and unanimously rejected a Macy offer of a two-and-a-half cent an hour general wage increase for those now earning the Union hourly minimum for their department and a raise to the minimum for those whose earnings are now below it.

Local I-S is the only department store Union that represents and negotiates for those employed fewer than five days a week.

One speaker after another strongly denounced the company's apparent disregard for their importance to the store and pledged full support to the Union in the fight for a real raise and a strong contract.

Macy's thus far has refused to give serious consideration to any form of Sick and Health Plan or to a rigid fixing of schedules. They did, however, indicate a willingness to discuss further the possibility of providing for automatic wage increases; of some form of vacation benefits; and some paid holiday plan. At last reports, the company was willing to pay for holidays which fall on Saturdays. They are also willing to pay those

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The Board also adopted three other proposals submitted by Political Action Committee Chairman Charles Boyd; urged the City CIO Council to "launch a campaign for the strict observance of all legal holidays" in organized shops; upheld a Trial Committee recommendation of a six month suspension in the case of Grocery Department Squad Head Charles Schwenk; approved an Anti-Discrimination Committee report; and adopted stronger measures for controlling overtime work in departments from which there have been layoffs.

## Political Action

The full text of the unanimously adopted resolution on the Butler Bill follows:

WHEREAS we believe the Butler Bill (S 1606) has the ultimate intent of destroying the free labor movement in the United States, and

WHEREAS the doctrine of guilt by association as embodied in the Butler Bill is a danger to the democratic rights of all people, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Board of Local I-S is unalterably opposed to the Butler Bill, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Local I-S will publicize and act upon its stated opposition to the Butler Bill, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Local I-S delegates to the New York City CIO Council, and its representative to the New York State CIO Council introduce similar resolutions at the next meetings of those bodies."

## Automatic Injunctions

The Board also voiced its unanimous opposition to the Metcalf-Strong Bill now pending in Albany. This Bill would legalize an automatic 30-day injunction stripping unions of their right to fully and freely back up bargaining demands. The Bill also conspicuously lacks any mention of retroactivity for gains won after the injunction period.

## Tax Program

The Board unanimously backed PAC's condemnation of the House Ways and Means Committee's plan to give a \$3 billion tax saving to the 335,000 families who own

(Continued on page 2)



## BRANCH STORE NEWS

### PARKCHESTER

Rosemary Molinari is expecting Sir Stork—probably the first week in May. The West and Metropolitan Avenue Service Desks, plus the Furniture Department already have provided her with a baby shower . . . Millie Ahrens and Katherine Margolies of P5 and Lillian Lukowitz of P10 are out sick. We hope they'll be back soon. . . . Scoopolo spotted a fine Karat (Very Nourishing Vegetable—NO?) Sparkler on a very important finger of Mary Nigro's left hand . . . Helen Goldberg of Children's Shoes got back from vacation recently, looking grand. Welcome! . . . Now that their furniture has been moved to a better vantage point we can really practice the good neighbor policy with Florence Rinaldi, Florence Kelly and Helen Pulaski . . . Mrs. Agnes Gilmartin of P4 has never had to visit a TV program to strike it rich or hit the jackpot for the 10th and 11th time, as a Grandma. WOW! . . . Lillian Miller of P5 is visiting her recently married daughter in Florida . . . Gong to press just before our Divisional Meeting, but all signs point to a lot of interest and a good turnout. Sure hope so, what with negotiations about to start rolling. It's always a good idea to let Macy's know where we stand—and that, needless to say, is solidly behind our Union!!



Fay Mattimiro

### FLATBUSH



Anne Bowen

Kay Polazzo (F6) is going around in circles. Her husband is due to arrive from Europe any day. She hasn't seen him in three years. It is his first trip to America. Much happiness to both of you . . . There are so many of our co-workers out sick that I don't have the space to list their names, but I want all of you to know that you're missed. Come back soon and help liven up the store . . . Belle Schepps has another addition to her family. Her daughter Audrey was just married . . . Hurrah for Ben Salzman (F5) and Bill Defarari (F1). They are the lucky Casino champs . . . Malvina Katucki (F8) has two grandchildren—a boy and a girl . . . After 8 years Doty Teinner (F3) is still happily married to the same guy. Must be love, Kid . . . Gilda Herman (F19) is celebrating her Second Anniversary. Hope you will see many more . . . Marie Meehan (F6) has a birthday, but she won't tell us which one it is . . . Relax everybody, the inspection is over. Was it worth it? We do the work—someone else gets the money. Have two more marriages to tell you about real soon. Lucky people . . . Our Divisional Meeting was real good . . . Our sincere sympathy to Herma Lindstrom (F4) and J. Brees, also F4 in their recent bereavements.

### WHITE PLAINS

Thanks to our Union and our contract we have three promotions that are all well-earned. John McNamee has been promoted from the Outdoor Shop to Men's Suits. Jim McGarry has moved from Men's Shoes to the Outdoor Shop and Keith Toucey has gone from Cameras to Men's Shoes. One of the other really nice things about these shifts is that they all help make possible the fact that Dick West will be able to permanently keep his job in the Camera Department. For a while his future seemed uncertain . . . Job Reviews are due to start again in early April. Every worker in the store should be sure to get one of the sample rating sheets—either from your Steward or a member of the Committee. It is important that you make an exact copy of your ratings so that the Committee will be in the strongest possible position to challenge their fairness, if it should be necessary . . . I'm confident that I'm not expressing only my opinion when I say that the February 15th issue of our Union newspaper with its article on "McCarthyism" was a really solid one. As the article said, "Silence is NOT Golden." Now is the time for all liberty-loving Americans to speak their minds and protest the destruction of the freedom we love!



Bill Bittner

### JAMAICA

Marcin Woodruff (J4 Furs) was operated on, but is now back with us feeling good again. Ditto Edna Nerenberg's husband, who is on the road to recovery—all of which makes us very happy . . . Checker tournaments are going on daily in the Recreation Room. Competition is keen. Players are all experts. Willie Williams of the Restaurant staff, undisputed champion, is challenging all qualified players for his crown . . . Carl Cardinal of the Rug Department had a hand injury, but it is healing nicely now . . . Felix Milan of the Soda Bar is vacationing. We all miss his unusual "Good morning" and his stories . . . PROMOTION DEPT.—Howie Brand, Stockman, was recently promoted to a selling job. He's in the Camera Dept. Couldn't have happened to a nicer fellow. Good luck from all of us . . . Rose Phelan leaving us, but promises to be back soon. We hate to see you go, Rose . . . Leo Weitzner of the TV Dept. emceed our recent color TV prevue. He really put on a good show . . . Lili Gonzalez (J4 Dresses) is back from vacation with that "bronzed look" . . . Betty Stanzione of J7 Accessories was married on February 27. Best wishes from all of us, Betty . . . Niela Jaroff of Alterations welcomed her husband back from a European trip . . . Felix Nieves, Stockman, transferred to J12 Men's Clothes . . . On our sick list are Ann Kalbacker (J12), Elizabeth Mattes (J5) and Charles Baumbusch (also J5). We hope you will all be back with us real soon.

## Executive Board Acts... (from Page 1)

80% of all corporation stock in this country, while refusing to raise the individual tax exemption from \$600 to \$700. The Committee and Board urged support of Senator George's proposed lifting of exemptions from \$600 to \$1000.

In every case, individual Union members are urged to write to either their State Assemblyman and State Senator or their Congressman and Senator.

Said PAC Chairman Charles Boyd, "Political Action is everybody's business."

The PAC group was authorized by the Executive Board to act on pressing legislative matters between Board meetings, subject to the approval of the Union's officers.

### Legal Holidays

Executive Board Chairman Phil Hoffstein called the Board's attention to the fact that in addition to non-union Hearnings being open on Washington's Birthday, there were several organized stores which ignored the holiday.

He was authorized by the Board to write to the New York City CIO Council urging a combined effort to win full respect for all legal holidays, or premium pay for workers in stores that choose to stay open. For additional details of the open shop menace on 14th Street, see story on Page 3.



If you . . .  
your husband  
or wife . . .  
or children  
under 18 . . .

or parents (if you're single)  
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And Rest Assured That  
Local 1-S Will Do the Rest

## Office Group Stops Threat To Job Loss

The alertness of a Shop Steward sealed off another possible avenue of Macy attack on the Office Division work force.

Geraldine Smith registered a sharp protest when Controller's Division Supervisor Schei held back daily work from the regular crew and gave it to someone from outside the department for Saturday overtime.

Alarmed over the possibility of their being told later that there wasn't enough work for all of them, the department gave Steward Smith their full support.

The Supervisor beat a hasty retreat. She told the Steward that she hadn't been aware that she was taking work away from the girls and promised that she would check with them in the future.

Miss Smith explained her action simply. She said, "There is just no sense in taking chances with job security. We are all glad the problem was settled quickly and easily."

**FREE**  
**LEGAL AID CLINIC**  
at the  
**UNION OFFICE**  
Every Wednesday  
5 to 7 P.M.

### Trial Committee

Dick Vaughn (6th Floor), reporting for the Trial Committee, recommended a six month suspension from Union membership in the case of Charles Schwenk, Squad Head in the Grocery Department.

Schwenk was charged by his Shop Steward and three co-workers with having informed on one of them, and of having exceeded his Squad Head duties.

Schwenk was tried and found guilty under Article XIV, Section 1g, of having acted "in a manner harmful to the interests and welfare of the Union and/or its members."

### Anti-Discrimination

John Malone (Display) reported for the Anti-Discrimination Committee that an offensive anti-Negro figurine in the form of a jockey had been found on the 6th Floor. One of the small statues was taken to the Labor Relations Office and management immediately agreed to remove all of them from the floor.

The Anti-Discrimination Committee urged continued cooperation from all members in the spotting and reporting of offensive merchandise.

### Overtime Ban

The Executive Board reviewed the results of its year-old ban on overtime work (except on Thursdays) in any department from which a worker had been laid-off.

The Board then went on record with a demand that Shop Stewards in all affected departments keep strict time records of work done by people flexed in or of the use of Flyers. If use of such personnel is excessive grievances should be written at once demanding the immediate recall of the laid-off worker.

### Board Changes

The Board welcomed newly elected Tony Gentile of Receiving and Bill Pandolfia of the Food Department.

Accepted with regret was the resignation of Robert Phillips, formerly of the 7th Floor, but now in White Plains.

## Macy Policy Costing Sick Workers Tax \$\$



Macy's Fred Fischer

Workers whose sick pay came out of "self-insured" plans were told that they would have to play full income tax on their benefits.

Local 1-S opposed the passage of that law because of the hardship it imposed on large numbers of workers and because it tightened the stranglehold of the huge insurance trust.

### 1-S Demands Change

Once the law was passed, however, Local 1-S was left with no alternative but to protect the economic rights of every member to the best of its ability.

The Union's officers asked Macy's to abandon its "self-insured" plan so that the workers would not be hit with higher tax bills at the very time that their earnings were lowered as a result of lost time.

The Union made its own insurance consultant available to Macy's. The company was shown the facts and figures that made it possible and wise for them to make the change. But Macy's still refuses to move.

### Now Up To Members

The only step that remains is for every worker in the store to demand action. Let Macy's know that you think it's unfair for you to carry the load of taxes on sick pay. Tell them that you want Macy's to insure the sick leave plan so that you can get the benefit of tax exemption. It will mean money in your pocket if you act now. So write, phone or visit Mr. Straus, Mr. Bingham or Mr. Fischer and let them know what's on your mind!

### LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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## Hearns Workers Are Pushed To Lowest Level

Since the recent end of the strike in which their union was destroyed the Hearns workers have been pushed down to the lowest standards of the past twenty years.

During the strike the boss at Hearns condemned the union in one breath, and in the next said that he didn't want to hurt his workers. His statements fooled no one. At that time almost all of labor in New York knew that Greenfield was out to erase the gains won over many years. His first assault was against job security. After he succeeded in laying off close to 1,200 workers without regard for their seniority he turned against the older workers and then announced a new, sub-standard wage policy.

As the workers fought desperately to keep their union, management was actively aided by the courts in a series of injunctions that completely eliminated their picketing.

On Washington's Birthday the latest chapter was added to the story of what the loss of the union cost the workers.

On that day, for many years a contractual holiday, Hearns was opened for business. The workers earned only straight time wages for the day, as compared with the triple time pay a member of Local 1-S would get!

### Other Affects

There are two other equally serious sides to the problem of union-busting on 14th Street.

One is the fact that many thousands of New Yorkers, unmindful of the fact that they were trampling on the broken body of a union, ran in response to a sucker sale. Nine hundred and ninety-nine shoppers out of a thousand got no bargains. All of them contributed to the strength of the boss' anti-labor campaign.

The other serious problem was the fact that many of the organized stores on 14th Street also opened their doors to meet the "competition" of the unorganized. That action itself, it is feared by many, will help undermine labor's demands for more paid holidays and a shorter work week.

### Call to Arms

With these problems clearly in mind, the Local 1-S Executive

Board approved a letter sent to the City CIO Council by Vice President Phil Hoffstein. The text of the letter follows:

Less than six months after the Hearns boss, Mr. Greenfield, broke the strike and the Union of his workers, he is showing all of labor what such a defeat can mean.

Washington's Birthday has for many years been a contractual holiday in most of the organized stores in this city. This year Hearns was open on Washington's Birthday and the workers were paid straight time for a full day's work.

Unfortunately, Hearns was not alone. Many other shops in the 14th Street area—including organized shops—also opened for business. This trend has already started uptown merchants to thinking of ways and means of cutting down on the number of contractual paid holidays.

Labor's fight has consistently been aimed at the winning of more such holidays and shorter hours. Not only do recent actions stop the forward march towards the achievement of such goals, but they actually put us in reverse.

We believe that all of CIO must make a determined stand against those employers who try to squeeze every extra hour and day of work out of employees, while unwilling to pay the premium rate that should go with such work.

We therefore call on the CIO Council and all its affiliates to launch a campaign for strict observance of all legal holidays. We believe that such a fight will help preserve the gains already won and will prevent an employer counter-attack against those standards.

### Action!

To protect their own interests, every Union member must:

1. Back the Local 1-S fight for still higher standards and still stronger contracts.
2. Help fight the union-busters wherever and whenever they show up.
3. Look for the union label on merchandise and don't patronize non-union, anti-labor stores or other establishments.

## Macy Housekeeping Shift Puts Everybody Up To Dirty Work

*"Swing that mop,  
And lift that pail,  
Grab a customer  
And you make a sale."  
(Sung to the tune of Old Man River)*

Macy's is using "bucket brigade" tactics to meet a situation for which they have only themselves to blame. More than three years ago the company practically handcuffed its veteran Housekeeping crew.

## Credit Union Assets Pass \$100,000 Mark

Just three-and-a-half years after it was chartered, the Local 1-S Federal Credit Union had accumulated cash assets amounting to more than \$102,000.

According to figures just released by Credit Union Treasurer Jack Schultz the organization has on hand \$97,514.66 in shares; Reserves of \$1,282.84; Undivided profits of \$2,828.13; and January profit and/or loss income of \$388.30.

### Membership Drive

Since the start of its "one-for-one" drive to have each of its 1,553 shareholders sign up a new member, the Credit Union has added more than 50 names to its books.

All Credit Union members are assured of a safe savings bank with high rates of interest on savings and easy borrowing facilities. The Credit Union, chartered by the Federal government, is a "co-operative" bank run by and for the benefit of its members. Join today!

## SO's Reject...

(Continued from page 1)

who are unable to work on a night to which Macy's has switched its late opening as a result of a holiday on a Monday or Thursday.

### All For One

Vice President Phil Hoffstein, who presided at the meeting, declared that, "We feel that we have to negotiate as hard for you as for the Regulars because we know that they will need your help and you will need theirs."

"The fact that Macy's made no offer of a general wage increase until the last possible minute before our meeting is proof that it takes them time to wake up to the fact that as members of Local 1-S you are now a force to be reckoned with. Until today it has been evident that Macy's thinks they pay you enough. It seems that they have just begun to change their minds!"

Vice President George Gurian joined Phil Hoffstein in urging that the group decisively reject the company's offer. He said, "Local 1-S is prepared to back you fully. A real victory for you is important for all of us!"

### Strategy

As the Union's two Vice Presidents outlined the many means by which the five-day-a-week Union members can help to strengthen their bargaining position, the Union's newest group gained confidence by leaps and bounds.

Additional negotiations sessions and membership meetings will be scheduled for the very near future.

Since that time dirt, dust, grime and a miscellaneous assortment of once useful objects have been piling up.

The problem dates back to the time when Macy's decided, in the interests of "economy" to discontinue the night shift Housekeeping operation. In its place the company started bringing the men in on a full-time 6 A.M. to 3 P.M. schedule. Part-timers generally work from 6 to 10 A.M. What Macy's has closed its eyes to is the fact that by 8:30 A.M. the Office Division is in at work, and at 9:45 A.M. the store's doors open.

In practical terms this has meant that the real job of cleaning—the mopping, vacuuming, etc., has to be done in from two-and-a-half to three-and-three-quarter hours, and whatever is unfinished at the end of that time just stays dirty.

Individual workers in the Housekeeping group tell of the mad scurrying and of being pulled from one department to another by bosses who are anxious to "open clean." They all agree that the result of the chaos and confusion is that they just aren't allowed to do the job as thoroughly as they

know it can and should be done.

### "Company's Coming!"

When the dirt got up to "here," Macy's decided to shrewdly play on everybody's sense of cleanliness and orderliness. They hung up signs by the dozens announcing that "Company's Coming," put out ample supplies of soap, water, rags, glass cleaner and the rest of the works and urged everyone to dig in to the accumulation of years of bad planning, false economy and neglect.

From the non-selling, office and selling divisions there came a chorus of complaints. As one meticulous homemaker in a selling department put it, "I know the d—d place is filthy, and I have said so on many occasions. But how we can be expected to take care of our stock, have a correct customer approach and a good volume record while we have a scrub rag in one hand and a salesbook in the other is more than I can see!"

"Housekeeping is not my job and I resent what is being done. I come to work dressed to meet and service customers. It's bad enough when I get home from work and have to say to myself, 'Holy smokes—Company's coming!'"

## Qualified Optimism

Replying to recent GOP charges that "prophets of gloom and doom" were trying to "talk" the nation into a depression, CIO Pres. Walter P. Reuther told the Joint Congressional Committee on the Economic Reports

The facts are that we of the CIO are extremely optimistic about the future and the possibilities of the American economy. We have stated repeatedly that the American economy is freedom's greatest asset. There is nothing fundamentally wrong with the American economy that an increase in purchasing power in the hands of millions of American families won't cure.

No matter how long we may be on confidence, we shall continue to get into economic difficulties so long as we are short on purchasing power.

Unfortunately, name-calling or political propaganda will not meet our problem nor will it put unemployed workers back to work. As I advised Mr. Leonard B. Hall, chairman of the Republican National Committee, the size of unemployment has continued to increase despite the intensity of Mr. Hall's name-calling campaign.

We of the CIO believe that full employment and full production are possible in peacetime if we demonstrate the good sense to gear our productive capacity and our developing technology to the practical challenge of satisfying the tremendous unfilled needs of the American people. We of the CIO reject the defeatist philosophy that would have us believe that depressions are inevitable.

## Fullest Job Protection Requires Help From All

The strength of the Local 1-S contract forces many responsibilities on Macy's. To make certain that the company is living up to the terms of the agreement the active cooperation of all members is necessary.

For example, the contract provides that layoffs shall be on the basis of seniority. It says further that a worker has recall rights to the job from which he or she has been laid off.

The Union's carefully kept records have shown instances of clerical errors on Macy's part—which have resulted in either the wrong person being laid off or called back.

Certain non-selling departments present special problems because they have people assigned in spots all over the store. This makes it impossible for any individual in the store to keep track of department seniority.

Every worker who is laid off is urged to report to the Union

office at once to make sure that Macy has lived up to the contract. You must help defend your rights!

### HEALTH PLAN NOTE

If you plan to take a leave of absence (including military leave) for more than 30 days or if you leave the store and wish to continue your Health Plan coverage on a direct payment basis YOU MUST see the Local 1-S Health Plan Consultant at the Union office within 30 days from the end of the month in which you leave the store.

If you, or a member of your family covered by the Health Plan, enters the hospital you MUST call on the Union office for claim forms immediately on entering or as soon as possible thereafter.

Protect yourself — protect your family — protect your benefits. Be sure to come to the Union office on time!

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XUM



# Union Wins Payment For Victim of Draft

Just because Macy's can't control the drafts of cold winter air that blast through sections of the Main Floor they have no right to deprive a worker of Christmas bonus because she lost time due to illness.

That was the main point that 47 Department Shop Steward Anne McLean stressed as she fought for better ventilation and bonus pay for Constance Emby.

Both the Department Supervisor and the Divisional Superin-

tendent were willing to talk about the weather, but turned a deaf ear to the demand for payment.

When the Union carried the fight to Macy's Labor Relations Department both problems were given serious consideration. The company agreed to pay Miss Emby her bonus in recognition of the fact that the absence was a result of the physical condition of work. They then turned their engineers loose on the job of making the Street Floor a healthier place to work. For a final answer all hands are waiting till winter winds blow again. Time will tell.

## CIO ON THE AIR!

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## GRIEVANCE VICTORY STRENGTHENS CONTRACT SECURITY PROVISIONS

Before Local 1-S went into action "job security" was just a couple of words to workers who were hired into Christmas-only jobs, and "recall rights" meant waiting until next Christmas.

The Union challenged Macy's system when it found that a member who had worked as a stockman in 84 Department had been laid off in January. Administrator Mabel Murther told Macy's that the contract provision for re-

call was meaningless if the company refused to recognize that "Christmas-only department" actually belong to year-round parent departments and that a worker should be recalled as soon as there is an opening in the parent group."

Miss Murther's arguments were virtually ignored until Vice President Phill Hoffstein took the case directly to Macy's Vice President in charge of Personnel and Labor Relations.

Only at that step in the grievance procedure did the company pay serious heed to the Union's demand. Mr. Fischer finally agreed that any Christmas hire on the job long enough to properly affiliate with Local 1-S would have his recall rights guaranteed to the parent department which once a year gives birth to the Christmas department.

Said Vice President Hoffstein, "This decision broadens the scope of our contract's protection, and is therefore an important gain for every worker in the store."

## Sick Leave Juggling Act KO'd by 1-S

Macy's was caught red-handed in the act of trying to have its cake and eat it, too.

First the company had argued that they wouldn't count a scheduled overtime Saturday as part of Sick Leave waiting time.

Then, in a later case, they attempted to cut a day's sick pay from a worker's check on the phony grounds that since she had been ill the first three days of the week, but had worked her scheduled Saturday off at Macy's request, they had made her last sick day her day off—without pay!

Forgetting all their previous arguments, Macy's plunged into the impossible job of trying to convince the Union that the company was right. After all their facts were on the table the Union put the earlier case back in front of them and told Macy's that they could take a choice, but that they could not have it both ways. At that point there was nothing more for Macy's to do than put back the two-thirds of a day's pay—which they did—reluctantly.

## Hats Off!

Our hats are off to 3rd Floor Shop Steward Nan Carlson for her outstanding devotion to her Union and the good fights it wages.

Nan was on a leave of absence on February 11th when the bell rang for the start of the Union's 1954 March of Dimes campaign.

But Nan saw her duty and she did it. She interrupted her leave to cover 115, 119 and 121 Departments, turned in the money to the Union office and then went back to her well-earned leave.

We don't know how many children Nan helped protect against polio by her devotion. We do know, however, that Nan has set a shining example for others to follow.

## TO THE EDITOR

### DETAILED AND TERRIFYING

This is to thank you for the recent article on mccarthyism by Curry, Harte and Pastor. Its detailed and terrifying outline of what can happen to each and every one of us had the effect of strengthening my efforts to fight this menace—as I'm sure it had for many others.

I would like to see follow-ups on this article with some specific suggestions as to what can be done. I, and others like me, would rather feel that we took an active part in fighting—instead of just deploring—this situation.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Zwick, 918 Dept.

### EXCELLENT

I would like to congratulate Ceil Curry, Jerry Harte and Dick Pastor for your very excellent article "Fight or Fall" which appeared in the February 15th issue.

It is concise and explains with great clarity the dangers facing us today. I hope every member reads it not once but several times.

Sincerely,  
Victoria Raffe, 21 Dept.

### THREAT AND CHALLENGE

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you and your associates on the excellence with which you presented the article on "McCarthyism."

The threat and challenge he presents to every clear thinking loyal American is well outlined in your editorial.

With this letter I give you a vote of thanks for a job well done.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Jacoby, 249 Dept.

### THREE CHEERS

Three cheers for the excellent article in the last issue clarifying the menace of McCarthyism. He represents a very grave danger to the rights of labor and certainly all of America.

Let us all speak out against this never-ending witchhunt which spreads such fear and helplessness among the people to keep them silent.

Fraternally yours,  
Ann Brown, 13 Dept.

### AGGRESSIVE

I am a member of the Insurance Workers Union of America, Local 1706, CIO. A friend of mine showed me a copy of your periodical in which a very well-worded editorial on "McCarthyism" is printed.

No amount of credit can be enough for your aggressive political position in the fight against

this menace to the American trade unions. The clear, orderly presentation of the dangers that have been foisted on the American worker and the potentially greater injuries (economic and political) that are in the mill, are neatly and properly indicated in the article.

For my own edification and that of my union brothers, I would appreciate several copies of this issue. Perhaps it will give greater understanding and strength to those who would oppose the labor policies of the large insurance companies.

Fraternally,  
Jacob M. Friedman

### PROTEST

As a real American unionist I wish to protest most emphatically to your article in the recent 1-S NEWS. You contend that Senator Joseph McCarthy is unfair. Would you be good enough to mention the name of any real American in your next issue who has been persecuted or wronged in any way.

It is very evident in your paper that anything contrary to Moscow and its friends displeases you.

Do you think that great American Samuel Gompers would countenance the racketeering tricks of union officials as we have to tolerate today? Also, would Eddie Cantor, Walter Winchell, S. Sokolsky, to name only a few real Americans be associated with your kinds.

By the way, would it be possible whenever there is an election in your Union to have same conducted on strictly secret lines as are our city elections. It has been my experience that a show of hands has decided too many of our officials being appointed to their fat expense padding salaries. No doubt you would be surprised at the result of an honest election of officials, conducted as I have suggested on strictly secret honest lines.

Do many of your union members a great favor by less coddling of communists and more honest efforts to the job which you have been appointed to.

Yours,  
A Loyal American

### A GREAT PATRIOT

I like your—or our—Union paper. I think it is edited very well and gives the news about our Union, which I am very proud of being a member (sometimes).

The only thing that has displeased me is the way that Miss Curry, Mr. Harte and Mr. Pastor

are trying to discredit a fine man, truly American, a great patriot—Senator Joseph McCarthy.

When it comes to politics we Union members are intelligent enough to judge by ourselves, without your advice. So mind your business and serve us.

Long live Senator McCarthy.  
Your member

### CONVINCE MACY'S

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Local 1-S for everything you did to win my recent case.

I cannot begin to express how much it meant to me when you came to my aid, but I will try to thank Local 1-S for everything you did to convince Macy's to reinstate me with back pay for the entire period. I was unemployed for seven weeks due to unfounded charges made by Macy's. I am very grateful for the continuous efforts on the part of Local 1-S in fighting to rectify the great injustice caused by Macy's. This has certainly made me realize how important it is to have a strong Union.

I especially want to thank Administrator Tom Raffaele, Vice President Phil Hoffstein and Floor Committee Chairman Lou Cotti for all their help.

Sincerely,  
Marion Falco, 11 Dept.

### THANK THE UNION

I am writing to you to thank the Union for my son Charles Baker. He was drafted into the Marines two years ago and came home this past December.

Thank God he went back to Macy's and is back at his old job in the Liquor Department sub-basement.

I want to thank all who head the Union for all that has been done for him. He recently went back to work after a three week vacation with pay, so I want to thank President Kovenetsky and his staff. May God bless you all.

Please excuse this writing. This is a grateful mother for my son.

Mrs. LeRoy Baker

### WELL-ROUNDED

May I take this opportunity in thanking the executives and members of Local 1-S for a wisely and well rounded Health and Medical Plan, as well as their blood bank.

I have just gone through a major operation and have benefitted by all these.

I also wish to thank all the co-workers of my wife, Nina Nord of Herald Square Ladies Shoes, for the splendid moral support they gave her during my illness.

Edward B. Nord

## PERSONALS

FOR SALE—A 9 x 12 and a 6 x 9 Chinese rug in very good condition. \$75 for both. Phone TR 2-1668, evenings.

FOR SALE—Trimble aluminum bathenette in good condition. Only \$15. Phone TA 7-1895.

FOR SALE—1951 Kaiser 4-door sedan, RH, overdrive, \$850. 1947 Packard 4-door sedan, RH, overdrive, \$375. Phone BE 7-8554. Evenings.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

**MEDICAL PLAN**—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

**BLOOD BANK**—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

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